Mountain Weather Forecast

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Wednesday 20 Oct 2021 until 23:59 on Thursday 21 Oct 2021

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 19 Oct 2021 at 16:52 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for a damp and windy day on Wednesday, and for colder conditions to set in later. High for a brief cold interlude to end the week. High for a return to milder weather with rain over the weekend.

Headline for Wednesday 20 Oct 2021: Very windy and cloudy for most of the day with rain, this turning widespread in the afternoon and turning to snow at height.

Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 20 Oct 2021

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy Snow
Low Likelihood

Storm force winds
Medium Likelihood

Gales
High Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Medium Likelihood

Poor visibility
High Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
Low Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Light rain	Light rain	Light rain	Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Sleet	Sleet	Heavy snow
Precipitation probability							
30%	30%	30%	40%	60%	70%	50%	40%

Forecast for Wednesday 20 Oct 2021

Weather: Cloudy in the morning with occasional rain, mainly across the west with some drier weather likely across the more sheltered east. A cold front will move southeast from early-afternoon bringing extensive low cloud and rain, this rain progressively turning to snow down to 600 metres. Drier and clearer weather will follow on from the northwest by dusk for a time, then heavy snow and hail showers developing towards mid-evening. Some very hazardous conditions developing after dark with blizzard like conditions setting in at times, accompanied by a significant fall in temperature.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 30%

Visibility: Poor in extensive low cloud down to 500 meters for most of daylight hours, although some breaks in the cloud sheet expected across the east for a time in the morning. Improving markedly from dusk onwards as low cloud clears, but rapidly deteriorating in snow in the evening with whiteout conditions developing at times.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
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Forecast for Wednesday 20 Oct 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	49/61 SW	47/59 SW	47/59 SW	47/59 SW	42/54 SW	33/44 NW	30/39 NW	29/38 NW	36/46 NW
900	47/59 SW	45/57 SW	45/57 SW	44/57 SW	40/52 SW	32/43 NW	29/38 NW	28/37 NW	33/44 NW
600	33/46 SW	32/44 SW	31/44 SW	31/44 SW	29/41 SW	24/35 NW	20/30 N	19/28 NW	24/36 NW
300	13/44 SW	12/43 SW	13/43 SW	12/42 SW	12/40 SW	14/36 NW	12/32 N	10/29 NW	11/35 N
Glen	16/32 SW	18/36 SW	17/35 SW	19/37 SW	20/38 SW	20/37 NW	16/32 N	14/28 NW	17/35 N

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	4/-5	2/-6	2/-6	2/-7	3/-5	0/-7	-2/-10	-3/-11	-2/-11
900	4/-3	3/-5	3/-5	3/-6	4/-4	1/-6	-1/-9	-2/-10	-1/-10
600	7/1	6/-1	5/-1	5/-1	6/0	4/-2	1/-5	1/-5	1/-6
300	9/6	8/5	8/5	8/5	8/5	6/2	3/-1	3/-0	3/-1
Glen	11/8	10/7	10/7	10/7	10/7	8/4	6/2	6/3	6/2
Freezing Level*	1500m	1300m	1300m	1300m	1500m	1000m	600m	600m	700m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Storm force summit winds will make for significant wind chill and slow progress during the daytime. Be prepared for an abrupt change to widespread hazardous winter weather later in the day. Snow will accumulate at higher elevations later, with icy surfaces likely down to mid-mountain level after dark.

Forecast for Thursday 21 Oct 2021

Weather: Bitterly cold, strong north-westerly winds will bring frequent showers of sleet, snow and hail through the day, with a small risk of a thunderstorm. The snow level will gradually rise as the day progresses, with snow confined to 800 metres and above by late afternoon.

Maximum wind: Northwesterly gales or severe gales widely across upland areas, gusting 60 mph at times on the higher tops.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 60%

Visibility: Excellent outside of showers, but quickly falling poor as snow showers run through. Cloud lowering to 700 metres at times in showers, and combined with snow will lead to some navigational difficulties.

Temperature: **Glens:** 0 Celsius rising to 5 Celsius
At 800m: Minus 1 Celsius, rising to 2 Celsius later
Freezing level: 600 metres, rising to 1000 metres later in the day.

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